

# BEIJING REVIEW

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF  
NEWS AND VIEWS

**China Welcomes Partners in  
Offshore Oil Exploitation**

●  
**Combating Economic Crimes**



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

### Joint Exploitation of Offshore Oil Resources

China will co-operate with foreign enterprises to exploit offshore petroleum resources in designated areas by calling for bids and entering into petroleum contracts, according to the Regulations on the Exploitation of Offshore Petroleum Resources in Co-operation With Foreign Enterprises (pp. 5 and 14).

### Punishing Economic Criminals

Dealing firmly with economic crimes — smuggling, speculation, profiteering, embezzlement and bribery — is one of China's major tasks this year. Economic criminals, no matter how high their ranks, must be punished according to policy and law. The former director of a Guangzhou bureau was arrested recently and prosecuted (pp. 3-4, 7).

### Broadcasting

Radio broadcasts, supplemented by wire communication in

the rural areas, reach far-away places and attract a larger audience than the newspapers. In addition to news and entertainment, they provide regular courses, the latest scientific developments, discussions of popular topics and domestic and foreign items of general interest (pp. 19-25).

### Soviet Strategic Trend

While chanting "end the arms race," Moscow is continuing to build its military capacity with the hope of gaining a decisive quantitative and qualitative edge (p. 10).

### Cuba — Soviet Surrogate

Armed and backed by the Soviet Union, Cuba has stationed 52,000 troops and military personnel in 17 Asian, African and Latin American countries (p. 11).

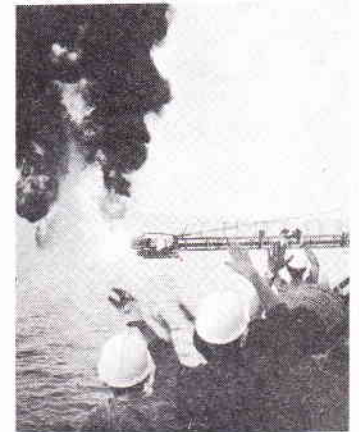
### Earthquake Prediction

Earthquakes in China are predicted with increasing reliability

by seismological offices using modern equipment aided by amateur stations. Observation of underground water and studies of historical data help give accurate predictions (pp. 28-29).

### Mental Health for the Elderly

Four recommendations for retirees and other elderly people for maintenance of good psychological health (p. 26).



Workers cheering the discovery of a new oil-bearing formation in the Beibu Gulf area in the South China Sea.

Photo by Chen Xuesi

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### CONTENTS

#### NOTES FROM THE EDITORS 3-4

Fighting Economic Crimes —  
Economic Editor Wang  
Dacheng

#### LETTERS 4

#### EVENTS & TRENDS 5-8

Bidding for Offshore Petroleum  
Exploitation  
In Commemoration of Edgar  
Snow  
Protest Against Vietnamese  
Armed Provocations  
Prosecuting Economic Criminals

Extravagant Weddings Must  
Cease

#### INTERNATIONAL 9-13

Debate on Natural Gas Trade  
— Hua Ming  
The Recent Soviet Strategic  
Trend — Tang Tianri  
Cuba — Soviet Military Strong-  
hold in Latin America —  
Lan Hai  
More Complications in the  
Gulf Area — Mei Zhenmin  
Economic and Trade Relations  
Between Japan and ASEAN  
— Chang Jiu

#### ARTICLES & DOCUMENTS

Regulations of the People's  
Republic of China on the  
Exploitation of Offshore  
Petroleum Resources in Co-  
operation With Foreign  
Enterprises (Pronounced on  
January 30, 1982) 14

#### SPECIAL FEATURE

Broadcasting Serves the Peo-

ple — Our Correspondent  
Ling Yang

Local Stations 19

China's First People's  
Broadcasting Station 20

Broadcasts in Minority  
Languages 21

Wire Communications in the  
Countryside 22

Tuning in, Beijing Style 23

Reaching Audiences Abroad 25

FROM THE CHINESE PRESS 26-27

CULTURE & SCIENCE 28-30

HUMOUR IN CHINA 31

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## **Fighting Economic Crimes**

**China is now publicly exposing and punishing criminals in the economic field. Will this lead to a purge?**

It is true that recently China has investigated and exposed cases of smuggling, speculation and profiteering as well as embezzlement and bribery. Many of the cases involve state cadres, even high-ranking cadres. One of the most important government tasks for 1982 is to deal firmly with economic crimes, and particularly to crack down on smuggling rings in the three coastal provinces of Guangdong, Fujian and Zhejiang.

In March 1949, just before the Chinese Communist Party seized state power, Chairman Mao Zedong warned our cadres to guard against sugar-coated bullets from the bourgeoisie. In the early 50s, a mass movement against the "three evils" (corruption, waste and bureaucracy) was carried out to ensure a clean government. In the movement, two big-time embezzlers were tried and executed. The impact was felt by all, and a number of cadres who had committed mistakes or crimes were uncovered in various units across the country. It was a great lesson to the people and state functionaries, and the positive effects of the movement lasted for a very long time.

Ideologically, the fight against economic criminals this year is not different from the movement against the "three evils" in the 50s. But, bringing an end to economic crimes is a more formidable task today because the illegal activities involve more people and are more serious than

in the early 50s. At the same time, the method of mass struggle will not be used because history has taught us that mass movements often broaden the scope of struggle and disrupt the normal order.

According to statistics collected in recent investigations, the number of economic crimes have steadily increased in recent years. There are serious cases involving some leading cadres who have taken advantage of their positions for personal gain, and have supported or even participated in criminal gangs. Such cases have aroused tremendous indignation among the people.

In Guangdong Province, for instance, economic crimes accounted for 30 per cent of all violations of the law or the disciplinary code in 1980. They rose to 41.2 per cent in the first half of 1981, and reached 70 per cent in the second half.

One example was the case of Wang Weijing, the former director of the Guangzhou telephone and telegraph bureau, and his wife. They were charged with speculation, smuggling and illegal purchase of foreign currency (see "Prosecuting Economic Criminals" on page 7 of this issue). People like them have degenerated into vermin that eat away at the foundation of socialism.

A basic cause of criminal activities in the economic field is the erosion of the Party's style of work and social practices during the 10-year internal disorder. Although the situation has begun to turn for the better after efforts were made in the

last few years, its aftereffects are still being felt and it will be some time before we see a fundamental change in the situation. The present open-door policy and flexible economic policies are correct, but on the other hand it should be noted that the scope and depth of bourgeois influence have also increased. Other influences on the crime rate are our imperfect economic and administrative legislation which have many loopholes, and our incompetence in handling criminal cases. Some cases involving "VIPs" have been pending and unresolved for many years. The time has come to deal with them as a first priority.

The method of mass movement will not be used in combating economic crimes. The stress is on investigation which, of course, will rely on the people. As soon as cases are identified, they will be dealt with according to law and policies. The Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China clearly stipulates: "Any state functionary who commits an offence of smuggling or speculation and profiteering by abusing the prerogatives of his office shall be punished more heavily." Our state leaders have stated publicly: Serious offences involving important cadres will be dealt with more severely and there will be no leniency.

We can safely predict that those criminals who have been hit by the sugar-coated bullets of the bourgeoisie will be dismissed from leading positions, no matter how high their ranks are, and will be punished according to law. On the other hand, we will also continue to uphold the principle of "learning

# LETTERS

## Honesty and Morality

The article "Let Foreign Visitors Know the Truth" (issue No. 2, 1982) is excellent. Your teaching and beliefs in everyone telling the truth and being honest in their individual thinking and actions should set an example for people the world over. I want to add that these are the things we observed while we were travelling in your country among the people we met.

"A Morality Lesson" (issue No. 1, 1982) is an example of what can be done by starting to teach the young and by the teachers and parents setting an example. Let us all use our two hard-working hands and use our minds — filled with good thoughts — to build a better and happier world. Let us all help to create "International Peace."

**Darlene A. Classen**  
Denver, Colorado, USA

## Transportation and Communication

Not long ago, you reported in detail on China's railways and in issue No. 45, 1981, you carried an article on China's highways. Communication and transportation have a direct bearing on the progress of a country and serve as an indicator of a country's level of development. Though I know China's air transport is still in a

from past mistakes to avoid future ones, and curing the sickness to save the patient." The principle of combining punishment with education will be applied to minor offenders as well as to those whose crimes are not very serious and who admit their offences and return their ill gotten gains. All these people will be appropriately handled. The few principal culprits will be severely punished and

nascent stage, I'm still interested in its present state and future plans. There are some places in China, like Tibet, which are inaccessible by rail. I imagine that air transportation must play an important role there.

In addition, I would like to see articles on China's postal service. Long ago China built a mammoth canal system. Now we in Europe are building a canal linking the Danube and the Rhine. I hold that reports on communication and transportation are vital to your readers in understanding the modernization level of China.

**Peter Romen**  
Lockau, Austria

## Lu Xun

I was delighted to find some articles on Lu Xun in *Beijing Review*, since I have been interested in him for a couple of decades. When I found the article in the September 28, 1981 issue (i.e., "Lu Xun — Great Writer, Thinker and Revolutionary"), I hastened to make a copy so that I could take it home, read it carefully, and send you some writer-to-writer impressions.

Being printed just before "Mao Zedong on Lu Xun" (issue No. 40 of 1981), Yan Chunde's "Lu Xun" demonstrates the effectiveness of the *Beijing Review* in providing series of features which help China's friends understand its complex modern intellectual history. Of course, followed by Mao Zedong's speech at the meeting of

the majority will be educated and helped to turn over a new leaf. Besides, large-scale education will be carried out among the people, the organizations with problems will be consolidated and more laws and regulations will be promulgated to fill legal loopholes. No purge will ever happen.

— *Economic Editor*  
*Wang Dacheng*

the North Shaanxi Institute at Yanan, the *Beijing Review* reader is provided not only with the astute opinions of the *Review* itself, but also with the analysis of another great Chinese writer. This should provide exciting reading for anyone who has followed the heroic attempts of "third world peoples" to develop their national resources and institutions in order to liberate their peoples from poverty and/or oppression.

As for myself, I especially enjoyed Yan Chunde's approach because he gave a good deal of information about Lu Xun's curriculum vitae, including not only important speeches, but also his early training and work before becoming a full-time cultural worker.

I especially want to communicate to you my impression that Lu Xun achieved a depth of portrayal of character (characterization) which puts him amongst the foremost ranks of the world's artists, not only because he had a social conscience, but also because of his fascinating artistry in characterization. In translation, Lu Xun's writing is unique. Lu Xun, like Francois Voltaire, provides a fine impression of the bouquet of humanity. I hope that more Lu Xun manuscripts will be discovered and translated for Western readers.

**Michael William Corr**  
Seattle, Wash., USA

## Covers

I like the new front cover, especially the one of the first issue of 1982, which is more vivid than past ones. The horizontal lines of the old covers were boring. The drawings on the inside back cover are beautiful, but you should not just present visual art. Sometimes you might carry short stories, excerpts of novels and poems.

**Siegfried Alt**  
Pforzheim, West Germany

I'm delighted to see the full-page picture on the front of the first issue of 1982. But the covers of Nos. 2 and 3 are discouragingly so-so!

**Halter Raphael**  
Frauenfeld, Switzerland

*Beijing Review*, No. 8

## FOREIGN RELATIONS

**Bidding for Offshore Petroleum Exploitation**

**T**HE call for the first round of bidding for participation in the exploitation of continental shelf oil resources in zones designated by the state was announced on February 16 by the newly established China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC).

A CNOOC spokesman said that the 46 companies from 12 countries that have participated technically and financially in geophysical surveys of China's offshore areas will be notified and invited to bid.

The first round of bidding will take place in two phases. The first phase concerns the northern part of the south Yellow Sea (see map) and the Zhujiang (Pearl) River estuary in the South China Sea; the second phase concerns the southern part of the south Yellow Sea, the Beibu Gulf basin in the South China Sea and the Yinggehai basin. The total area is 150,000 square kilometres. Notifications for the bidding on the second phase will be issued a month later.

The deadline for applications is 4 p.m., March 30, 1982, Beijing time. Failure to send in the applications in time means forfeiting the right to bid for this round.

A CNOOC-appointed committee of experts will judge the bids, select bidders for further negotiations and finally decide to whom to award the oil exploration contracts.

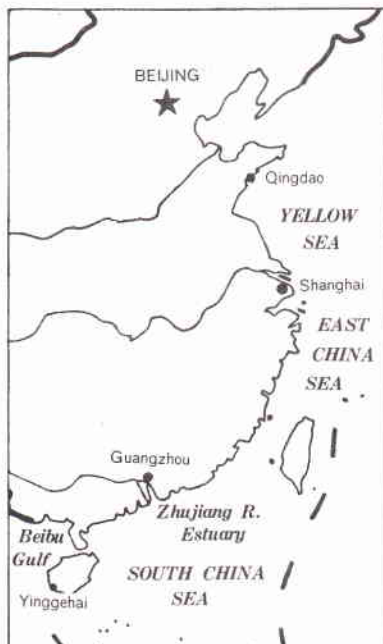
Large sedimentary basins totalling 620,000 square kilometres have been discovered in

China's vast territorial waters. Geophysical surveys, conducted since 1979 with foreign funds and technology, indicate excellent prospects for oil and gas exploitation in China's continental shelf.

**The CNOOC**

The CNOOC, set up on February 15, takes full charge of co-operating with foreign companies in exploiting oil reserves in China's continental shelf.

With Qin Wencai as its president, the CNOOC is a state corporation which has the exclusive rights to petroleum exploration within the zones demarcated for co-operative exploitation and to develop, produce and market it. It is under the administration of the Ministry of Petroleum Industry and has its headquarters in Beijing.



All rights and obligations specified in petroleum contracts and geophysical survey agreements signed with foreign companies by the Petroleum Corporation of the People's Republic of China and by the China National Oil and Natural Gas Exploration and Development Corporation will be transferred to CNOOC.

Qin Wencai said that his corporation will, abiding by the principle of safeguarding national sovereignty and promoting mutual benefit, actively co-operate with foreign enterprises to develop China's offshore petroleum resources.

The corporation will set up a Bohai Bay oil company, a south Yellow Sea oil company, an eastern South China Sea oil company, a western South China Sea oil company and other specialized companies as well as overseas offices. The CNOOC will organize these subsidiary organizations to implement the petroleum contracts and contracts for construction of offshore oil exploration installations and facilities.

**Regulations**

On January 30, the State Council promulgated the Regulations on the Exploitation of Offshore Petroleum Resources in Co-operation With Foreign Enterprises (for full text see p. 14).

The regulations stipulate that in accordance with petroleum contracts, the foreign contracting party shall provide exploration investment, undertake exploration operations and bear all exploration risks. Once a commercial oil and/or gas field is discovered, both the foreign

contractor and the CNOOC shall invest jointly in its development. The foreign contracting party shall be responsible for the development and production operations until the CNOOC takes over production operations when conditions permit. The foreign contracting party may recover its investment and expenses and receive remuneration out of the petroleum produced according to the provisions of the petroleum contract.

Foreign contracting parties may deliver abroad their shares of petroleum and the petroleum they buy and they may remit abroad the investment recovered, their profit and other legitimate proceeds according to law.

The regulations define the rights, obligations and legal interests of participating foreign companies, Qin Wencai said. The Ministry of Finance will soon promulgate detailed rules and regulations concerning the implementation of the income tax law for foreign enterprises.

## In Commemoration of Edgar Snow

February 15 was the 10th anniversary of the death of the famous American journalist and writer Edgar Snow. Various activities were held in Beijing to commemorate this sincere friend of the Chinese people.

A commemorative meeting attended by 1,000 people was held in Beijing University, which in the 1930s was the site of Yen-ching University where Snow taught. Part of his ashes are buried on the university grounds. Prior to the meeting, some Chinese leaders, Mrs. Lois Wheeler Snow (Snow's widow), and his Chinese and foreign friends visited his grave.



Vice-Premier Yao Yilin (fifth from left) and Lois Wheeler Snow (left, wearing dark jacket) visiting the "Edgar Snow and China" exhibition.

Huang Hua, Vice-Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs, delivered the major speech at the meeting. He said that Edgar Snow's life bore ample testimony to the friendship between the Chinese and American peoples. Snow lived and worked in China for 13 years, when it was in the depths of misery. After China's liberation, he returned to visit China on three occasions for long and extensive tours. With a keen insight, unaffected sympathy and the realistic spirit of seeking truth, and through his independent observation and contemplation, he gradually became familiar with the main trends and orientation of the development of Chinese history, the future of the country and its sources of strength. He made unswerving efforts to study and explain the historical necessity of the Chinese revolution and worked tirelessly to promote the understanding and sympathy of the people of the United States and other countries for the Chinese people's revolutionary cause.

On his deathbed, Snow said with deep feeling: "I love

China." Huang Hua said at the meeting that the Chinese people also deeply love this great son of the American people. "With love, respect and gratitude," Huang Hua said, "the Chinese people will always cherish his memory and the memory of all the foreign friends who sympathized with and supported the Chinese people during the difficult years of the Chinese revolution."

He concluded: "Sometimes relations between states may be overcast and the road ahead may be rugged. But the friendship between the peoples is everlasting. The Chinese people will always remain united with the people of the United States and those of other countries and work together with them to promote our mutual understanding and friendship, maintain world peace and strive for a better future of mankind."

**Other Commemorative Activities** include a one-month exhibition entitled "Edgar Snow and China" in Beijing's Museum of the Chinese Revolution. More than 400 photos and other ex-

hibits depict Snow's boyhood days, his tours of China, his life in Beijing, visits to the northern Shaanxi revolutionary base area during the War of Resistance Against Japan, his three visits to New China and the last days of his life, as well as the Chinese people's mourning and commemorative activities for him.

A two-part TV film dramatized Edgar Snow's life and contributions.

His famous account of the liberation struggle, *Red Star Over China*, has been reissued, as has *I Love China*, a book that describes the last days of his life. In addition, a Chinese edition of a collection of photos entitled *Edgar Snow's China*, compiled by Lois Wheeler Snow, has been published.

Numerous newspaper articles and radio and television broadcasts commemorating Snow have also appeared.

## Protest Against Vietnamese Armed Provocations

Recently, the Vietnamese authorities have intensified their armed provocations and incursions into Chinese border area, wantonly opening fire into Chinese territory, making raids on innocent Chinese border inhabitants and sending aircraft to intrude into China's air space for reconnaissance. The Chinese Foreign Ministry on February 11 sent a note to the Vietnamese Embassy in Beijing, strongly protesting against such activities.

The note said that in the period from December 21, 1981 to January 29, 1982, there were as many as 416 instances of

Vietnamese armed provocations, 44 of which took place during the Spring Festival. They inflicted heavy losses in life and property to the Chinese border inhabitants and frontier guards.

The note pointed out that while continuing their military provocations and incursions, the Vietnamese authorities put on a "peace" posture, first by proposing a "cessation of hostile armed activities" along the Sino-Vietnamese border during the Spring Festival and then by making a great show in announcing a "unilateral 10-day cease-fire." But the doings of the Vietnamese authorities have proved that their so-called proposal and statement are nothing but a deceptive propaganda ploy. Their purpose is to hide the truth from the Vietnamese people, mislead world opinion and cover up their criminal acts of intensifying their war of aggression in Kampuchea and their incessant encroachment upon the territory of Thailand.

The note demanded that the Vietnamese side stop forthwith its armed provocations and intrusions into Chinese border areas.

## POLITICAL

### Prosecuting Economic Criminals

A Guangzhou official and his wife have been accused of speculation, smuggling and illegal purchase of foreign currency. This was disclosed in an article carried on February 5 in *Renmin Ribao*, organ of the Chinese Communist Party. The paper has recently given much coverage to the efforts to curb

crimes in the economic field.

Former director of the Guangzhou telephone and telegraph bureau Wang Weijing and his wife Wang Min are charged with buying 8,000 Xianggang (Hongkong) dollars from the relatives of Xianggang businessmen and compatriots in Guangdong by illegal means. Taking advantage of their positions, over three years since 1978 they procured foreign exchange coupons worth Renminbi 4,000 yuan. They illegally imported TV sets (both colour and black-and-white), cassette tape-recorders, calculators and wrist-watches from Xianggang and Aomen (Macao) or bought them in Guangzhou and Chaoyang County in south China and shipped them to Yantai and Wendeng County in east China's Shandong Province, for sale at high prices, thereby pocketing huge profits.

The criminal investigation began in response to numerous letters from workers and staff of the Guangzhou telephone and telegraph bureau and local cadres and rank-and-file, who had written repeatedly to the Party discipline inspection and judicial departments and the press exposing the Wangs' crimes. Under the supervision of the Central Party Discipline Inspection Committee, the Guangzhou people's procuratorate conducted a meticulous investigation into the case and finally filed a lawsuit against the Wangs with the city people's court in June 1981. The public security department arrested Wang Min soon afterwards and, after collecting ample evidence against Wang Weijing, arrested him on February 1 this year.

Wang Weijing has been expelled from the Party and

dismissed from office; Wang Min was expelled from the Party earlier.

The Wangs were both veterans of the revolution. Despite the long years of education by the Party, they were corrupted by bourgeois ideas, lost their communist qualities and degenerated into law-breakers. Their case is an example indicating that bourgeois ideas have found their way into the Party and corrupted some weak-willed members and cadres.

Dealing with major criminal cases in the economic and other fields, especially those involving ranking cadres, is one of China's major tasks this year in further improving socialist ethics.

## SOCIAL

### Extravagant Weddings Must Cease

Wedding costs are in a number of cases far outstripping newlyweds' ability to pay them. The problem has become so apparently nationwide that the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League issued last December an open letter calling upon young people to make their weddings "civilized, economical and lively," and to avoid being "extravagant, wasteful and vulgar."

An investigation of 180 recent marriages in Beijing found that wedding expenses average 1,554 yuan per couple, although the monthly wage for each partner was below 50 yuan. Nearly one-quarter of the money was spent on dinner parties, the investigation found.

Young couples are spending much more on weddings to-

day than was spent a few years ago because of the improved living standards and wage increases and bonuses in recent years. However, some young people have been misled into pursuing ostentatious or extravagant marriages even though their savings cannot cover the costs and they must rely on financial support from their parents or gifts and loans from friends and relatives.

These unhealthy practices can be disastrous for a new marriage.

Zhao Chunfu, a worker at a sewing-machine factory in Benxi in northeast China's Liaoning Province, borrowed nearly 1,000 yuan for his wedding celebrations in January last year and ordered a 28-table feast to entertain his guests. As a result, he found himself beginning his married life with a debt of over 600 yuan. His monthly wage was only 50 yuan and it was difficult for him to pay off his debt even if the couple lived frugally. Husband and wife lived a hard life and had to depend on their parents. Even so, they often quarrelled over money matters.

Li Zhongkuan, formerly a worker at the rolling mill of the Shoudu Iron and Steel Company in Beijing was often commended for his diligence and skill in work. Unfortunately, he began

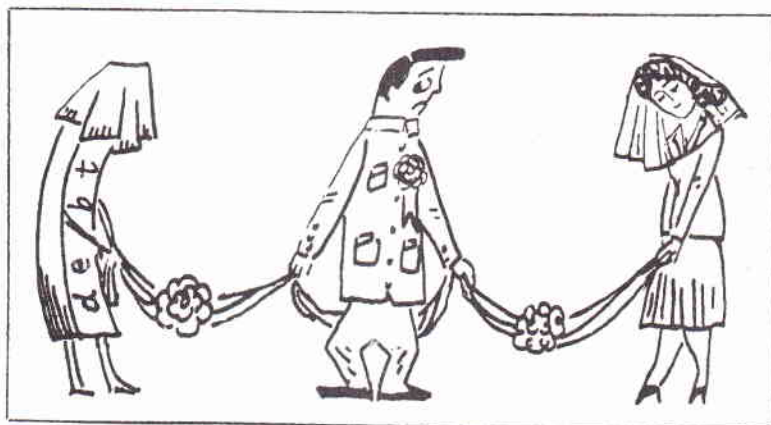
to steal because he wanted an extravagant wedding. He ended up going to jail before he could enter his bridal chamber.

Numerous local newspapers have published articles and readers' letters discussing this problem. Most of them have expressed the view that marriage is a happy event in people's life, one worth celebrating. It is generally agreed that it is natural and normal to want to invite relatives and friends to the wedding and to serve wine, sweets and cigarettes. Many also approve of couples buying new clothing and furniture as long as the expenses are within their financial means.

But most deplore indulgence in extravagance and waste brought on by vanity or concern about face-saving. Young people are advised not to incur huge debts for the sake of one day's celebration.

The Youth League Central Committee's call for frugality in wedding expenses has received positive response throughout the country.

A survey of 14 well-known restaurants in the Huangpu District of Shanghai showed that in the three weeks after the Youth League Central Committee issued its call, orders for 2,114 wedding feast tables were cancelled.





## Debate on Natural Gas Trade

**F**RANCE and the Soviet Union recently signed a 25-year agreement on natural gas.

According to the agreement, the Soviet Union will begin supplying France with 8,000 million cubic metres of natural gas every year in 1984. This is the first contract a Western country has signed with the Soviet Union since the United States announced economic sanctions against the Soviet Union. It has triggered another round of debate on natural gas in the West.

The Soviet Union concluded similar agreements with West Germany and Italy earlier. It is now negotiating, or has concluded agreements, with approximately 10 West European countries.

### Reaction of the United States

The Soviet Union's planned natural gas trade with Western Europe, the biggest in the history of East-West trade, has met with opposition from the United States, which believes the trade will leave Western Europe heavily dependent on the Soviet Union for energy and more vulnerable to Soviet pressure. The West Europeans are obviously thinking primarily about their economic and energy needs. They are extremely dissatisfied with the United States, which has opposed their natural gas contracts while continuing to sell hundreds of tons of grain to the Soviet Union. At a recent session of the Atlantic

Alliance's Co-ordinating Committee for Export Control, the United States warned Western Europe not to supply the Soviet Union with materials for laying the gas pipeline from Siberia to Europe. The Europeans ignored the warning and their differences with the United States remain unbridged.

The United States is particularly annoyed by the timing of the Soviet-French agreement. As everybody knows, on December 29 after Poland was placed under martial law, Reagan announced his 7-point sanction measures against the Soviet Union, which was directed mainly at the Soviet oil and gas industry. The United States' West European allies have not unanimously supported Reagan's sanctions against the Soviet Union. Moreover, France signed the agreement with the Soviet Union three days before the Geneva talks between the foreign ministers of the United States and the Soviet Union, ignoring the United States' demand that it postpone the signing. Reagan responded by suggesting in a subsequent speech that the West should not link its future too closely with the Soviet Union. However, France has indicated that it intends to continue pursuing its independent policy. France has also said it is "not willing to listen to the United States, which continues to waste energy while preaching to an energy-short country." According to a French newspaper, the French-Soviet agree-

ment has put an end to the "honeymoon" between the US and French presidents.

### The Soviet Union's Attempt

The natural gas will come from the world's biggest gas fields on the Yamal Peninsula in northern Siberia. In order to get gas, the West European countries will provide the Soviet Union 15,000 million US dollars worth of steel pipes and other equipment to lay the 5,000-kilometre-long pipeline. The Soviet Union will earn big profits. Its yearly income is expected to exceed 7,000 million US dollars. This will facilitate its expanding exports to the West and acquiring advanced technology and equipment. The gas income will, therefore, enable the Soviet Union to solve its technical difficulties and strengthen its military. Politically, it can use these agreements to nullify the United States' sanction efforts and drive a wedge between the United States and Western Europe. Moreover, it will have an "energy weapon" which it can use to blackmail the West. This is why the Soviet Union is giving priority to speedy development of the Siberian gas fields.

After signing agreements with Italy, West Germany and France, the Soviet Union will try to reach agreements with Austria, the Netherlands and some other West European countries. However, since these agreements have a vital bearing on the West's political and economic interests, the debate about their propriety will certainly continue.

— Hua Ming

# The Recent Soviet Strategic Trend

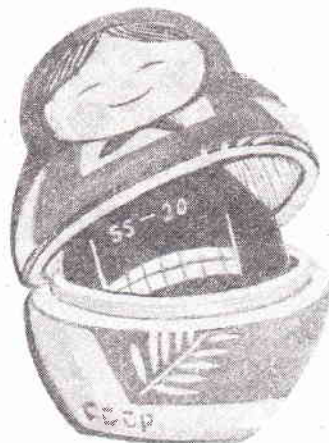
**U**NDER the slogan "End the arms race!", Moscow has called for talks on limiting Euromissiles, strategic arms limitations and a reduction of forces in Central Europe — "the three most pressing issues of this year that demand resolution."

Despite Western criticism of its role in Poland, Moscow continues to pay lip service to "peace," "disarmament" and "negotiation." Nonetheless, it has continued to increase its military capacity with the hope of gaining a quantitative and qualitative edge on the United States.

## Feeding the Military Machine

Western military research institutes indicate that Soviet military spending is being maintained at an annual growth rate of approximately 5 per cent and expenditures for the development of sophisticated weapons remains higher than that of the United States. It is in the process of deploying a large number of nuclear armed intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM). They are fourth generation weapons featuring greater accuracy and a fifth generation of ICBMs is in the works. Before the end of this year, Moscow intends to deploy 50 to 70 more SS-20s and 30 backfire strategic bombers. A nuclear-powered submarine of the typhoon class is now on its trial run and will soon be put into service.

The Soviet ground army will get more T-72 tanks and will soon be provided with T-80 tanks. The air force will be equipped with a shipment of combat aircraft of the fourth generation, comparable to the American F-15 or



F-16 and the navy is making preparations for the coming of the third aircraft carrier Kharkov and other large surface craft.

Moscow obviously intends to continue building its military capability and to continue challenging the United States in the East, West and South in order to consolidate its gains and reach for more whenever opportunity offers.

## The Western Front

Moscow will continue to focus its attention on the West. Acting as the head of what it calls the socialist community, it will also concentrate efforts on the many problems besetting the community. It has repeatedly reminded the United States that it should not violate the Yalta Agreement by interfering in the Soviet sphere of influence in Eastern Europe, which Moscow says it will defend with all its might. On January 25-30, the Soviet Union and some of its East European allies conducted the military manoeuvres "Friendship-82," which, as TASS put it, aimed at better co-ordination in defending more effectively the "sacred frontiers" of the community's member countries.

Meanwhile, Moscow is using economic enticements and military threats to drive a wedge between the West European nations and the United States. Moscow is also attempting to poison relations among NATO countries by skilfully exploiting their differences. These actions are designed to scuttle US plans to deploy Pershing II and cruise missiles in Western Europe.

## The Eastern Front

Moscow will continue to bolster its position in the East. Soviet leaders have repeatedly stated that preparations must be made for fighting a "war on two fronts," that is, on both the Eastern and Western fronts. So more SS-20s, backfire bombers, D-class submarines and other surface ships have been moved to the Far East so as to deal with the US armed forces in the Pacific and to threaten Japan and China.

At the same time, it makes every effort to poison Japanese-American, Sino-American and Sino-Japanese relations.

## The Southern Front

Moscow had made a breach in the southern front by occupying Afghanistan and helping Viet Nam to overrun Kampuchea. Its next step is to reach for more in troubled Middle East and Gulf region. It has eased its position somewhat in relation to Egypt and is trying to bring the Saudi proposal for Middle East peace into line with its own plan for an international conference. This would provide Russian involvement in the Middle East peace process. Exploiting the antipathy which Arab countries share regarding Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights and the US-Israeli

"strategic co-operation" agreement, it has reinforced its "strategic alliance" and "military co-operation" with some Middle East countries and expanded its Middle Eastern military facilities and stockpile of arms there.

The Soviet Union jumped at the opportunity presented by the Iraq-Iran war to inflate its influence in the Gulf region, especially to penetrate deeper into Iran.

There probably won't be another Afghanistan for some time to come. Nonetheless, the world's hot spots remain dangerously unstable and there is always the possibility of new trouble spots coming into being. Who really believes that the Kremlin will restrain its expansionist tendencies for the good of the world if an opportunity to fish in troubled waters presents itself?

— Tang Tianri

mies and more than 40 secondary military schools. Universities and colleges throughout the country have to carry out military training and offer military courses as regular subjects. Every province and city has "regional militiamen." In the suburbs of Havana and some other cities and towns, in many holiday beaches and pastureland there are barracks, target ranges and military restricted zones. This makes some people feel that "Cuba has become one huge barrack."

## Cuba — Soviet Military Stronghold in Latin America

CUBA, the largest island country in the West Indian Archipelago, is located in the northern portion of the Caribbean Sea. It stands outside the outlet of the Gulf of Mexico and intersects two shipping routes between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans and between South and North Americas. Because Cuba's strategic position is extremely important, it is regarded as "an aircraft carrier anchored in the Caribbean Sea."

### A Big Barrack

In order to serve its expansionist objective in Latin America, the Soviet Union has armed Cuba. Since the 1960s, Moscow has provided several billion US dollars worth of weapons to Cuba. In 1981, Moscow's arms shipments to

Cuba ran to 63,000 tons.

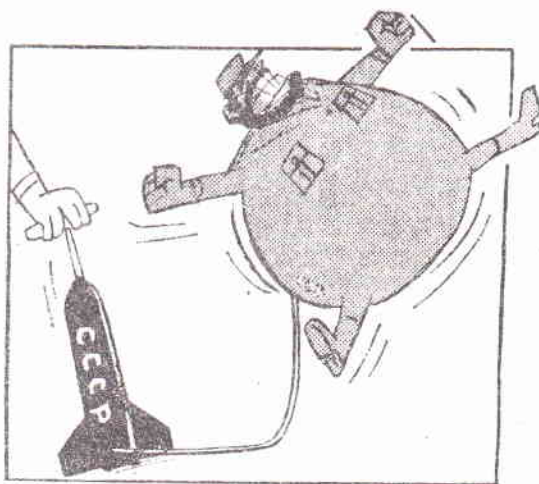
Cuba is a small country with a population of less than 10 million, but its military strength has approached or surpassed Brazil, the largest country in Latin America. Cuba has approximately 220,000 soldiers and nearly one million troops in its reserves. In order to meet the needs of arms expansion and war preparation, it has set up more than 20 military academies

### Stationing Troops in 17 Countries

Relying on Moscow's support, the Cuban Government has pursued an aggressive foreign policy by using its military superiority in Latin America. In the mid-70s, Cuba dispatched a large number of troops to Angola and Ethiopia. In the last few years, flaunting the banner of supporting the national-liberation movement, Cuba has made use of the turbulent situation in the region to foster pro-Soviet and pro-Cuban forces. According to statistics, there are more than 52,000 Cuban troops or military personnel stationed in 17 Asian, African and Latin American countries.

### US Counter-Measures

Cuba's expansion and infiltration in Central America and the Caribbean region, which has been carried on with the full backing of the Soviet Union, makes the United States feel that its "traditional interests" in this area are being "seriously challenged." Since taking power in early 1981, Presi-



dent Reagan has declared that containment of Soviet and Cuban expansion in this region is one of the steps which "claims most precedence" in his foreign policy. He has increased his country's military deployment in this area. Reagan has also increased military and economic assistance to dictatorships in some Central American

countries, such as El Salvador, to suppress the national-liberation movement in an attempt to maintain the US position there. Confrontation and contention in this area by the two superpowers will certainly become more intense in the immediate future. This will increase the area's instability.

— Lan Hai

## More Complications In the Gulf Area

**T**HE continuing Iran-Iraq war is making the situation in the Gulf area more complicated.

**Some Arab Countries Are Worried About Iran.** Since last autumn, Iran has mounted several counterattacks, relieved Abadan from the state of siege, and recovered part of its lost territory. Some of the Gulf countries are worried about the resulting state of imbalance in military strength in the area if Iraq is defeated.

Therefore, King Hussein of Jordan recently announced the formation of an all-volunteer force to be sent to Iraq to assist it in its war with Iran. According to Iraqi reports, Morocco and North Yemen also intend to send volunteer troops to Iraq.

An article recently published in a Kuwait newspaper applauded Jordan's decision to send volunteers to Iraq. The article said King Hussein's call is "a turning point in the modern history of the Arab world."

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmad Azizi responded in a statement on January 30

in which he said King Hussein's call for volunteers to support Iraq in the Gulf war was a "declaration of war" against Iran. He charged that Jordan's decision was incited by the United States.

Libya and Syria's leaders condemned Jordan's decision. Libyan leader Muammar Al-Gaddafi denounced King Hussein in a January 29 statement.

Meanwhile, the confrontation between Iran and some Arab countries in the Gulf area has sharpened. Last December Bahraini authorities announced the discovery of a plot to overthrow the government. It was reported that 60 "Iranian-trained" terrorists involved in the plot were arrested. Other Gulf countries were startled by the plot, which was allegedly "hatched by Iran."

Some Gulf countries have expressed concern about Iran's Moslem fundamentalists, who advocate the export of the "Islamic revolution." They have expressed support for Bahrain. The largest Gulf country, Saudi Arabia, said that "the plot exposed by Bahrain was aimed at Saudi Arabia." For this reason, Saudi In-

terior Minister Prince Nayef Ibn Abdel Aziz was sent to Bahrain immediately after the attempted coup. The two countries signed a bilateral security co-operation agreement to co-ordinate efforts in the field of security.

In a statement expressing deep concern over the abortive coup in Bahrain, Abdullah Yacoub Bishara, Secretary-General of the Gulf Co-operation Council, pointed out: The coup's aims were to undermine the security of the six member states of the Gulf Co-operation Council. So these countries are now considering a joint plan for security co-operation and they are preparing to join the bilateral security co-operation agreement signed by Bahrain and Saudi Arabia.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Vellayati is reported to have said that Iran will regard it as a threat if the six Gulf countries conclude a joint security pact without Iran's participation. Iranian President Ali Khamenei has warned other Gulf states not to take a hostile attitude against Iran. He also said Iran does not want to see a war break out in the region, but is prepared for such a contingency.

The president's warning came at a time when the six defence ministers of the Gulf-Co-operation Council met in Riyadh to discuss co-ordinated defence and formulate a unified strategy to deal with the dangers facing the area.

**Guard Against Superpowers' Intervention.** The Iran-Iraq war has split the Arab and Islamic countries. The war results from border disputes, but complicated boundary questions can be solved by peaceful consultations. Only when a cease-

fire is declared will it be possible for the Arab countries to achieve unity, and establish stability in the Gulf area and the Middle East. Otherwise,

the superpowers will increase their involvement in the area and make the situation worse.

— Mei Zhenmin

## Economic and Trade Relations Between Japan and ASEAN

**E**CONOMIC and trade relations between Japan and ASEAN nations have rapidly developed during recent years.

Japan began to increase its economic assistance to ASEAN in large quantities in 1975, shortly after the conclusion of the Viet Nam war. Given Soviet and Vietnamese expansionist activities in Southeast Asia, the Japanese Government attaches more importance to developing relations with ASEAN nations.

Proceeding from the strategy of "All-round Security," the Masayoshi Ohira cabinet, which took power at the end of 1978, regarded the relations with ASEAN as "one of the cornerstones of Japan's foreign policy." It even called the relations between Japan and ASEAN a "community in fate through thick and thin."

### Increased Economic Assistance

After becoming Prime Minister in July 1980, Zenko Suzuki broke the "rule" of first visiting the United States and took an official trip to ASEAN nations instead. In addition to its five ongoing assistance projects for ASEAN, the Suzuki administration has also proposed to help vitalize agriculture, develop energy resources, train personnel and provide assistance to small and medium-sized enter-

prises. The Suruki government also decided to increase its 1981 economic assistance to ASEAN nations by 390 million US dollars. Thus Japan's annual economic assistance to ASEAN is 1,090 million dollars. This equals to 26.5 per cent of the total economic assistance provided to ASEAN nations from 1960-79. At present, Japan provides more than 50 per cent of foreign aid received by Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand.

### Japan's Requirements

Why do recent Japanese governments think highly of developing relations with ASEAN?

First of all, Japan needs access to ASEAN's investment and commodity markets. Up to March 1981, Japan's direct private investment abroad totalled 36,000 million US dollars, of which 7,020 million dollars were in ASEAN. This constituted 19.5 per cent of its direct private investment abroad. More than 2,300 Japanese companies have investments in ASEAN with 330,000 workers employed. If indirect employees of contract and transportation are included, the number is almost three million. From 1970-80, Japan's export to ASEAN accounted for more than 10 per cent of its total exports. In 1980, the proportion of ASEAN total imports from

Japan rose from 24 to 35 per cent. ASEAN has become a very important market for Japan's capital and goods.

Secondly, Japan needs raw materials and energy from ASEAN. According to the US weekly *Time*, Japan's natural rubber, tin and tropical timber are almost completely imported from ASEAN. Vegetable fat and oil, sugar, bauxite, copper ore and petroleum imports from ASEAN account for 65, 30, 30, 25 and 17 per cent of its total imports. Japan also needs increasing amounts of liquefied gas from ASEAN. At present, Japan's natural gas imports from Indonesia account for more than 50 per cent of its demands.

Thirdly, ASEAN's strategic position is extremely important to Japan. The Straits of Malacca and Lombok are strategic passages connecting the sea lane of Asia, Africa and Europe. Forty per cent of Japan's imported goods, 80 per cent of its oil imports and 35 per cent of its exports have to pass through these two straits. If the Strait of Malacca is cut off, Japan will suffer a fatal blow. This is why this strait has always been called the "lifeline of Japan."

Several factors have contributed to the frictions between Japan and ASEAN. Japan's loan terms are harsher than those of the United States or Europe, its trade practices are seen as unfair and it has a history of conflict with some ASEAN members. However, proceeding from its strategy in confronting Soviet-Vietnamese hegemonism, it appears that Japan will adjust and improve its relations with ASEAN.

— Chang Jiu

# Regulations of the People's Republic of China On the Exploitation of Offshore Petroleum Resources in Co-operation With Foreign Enterprises

*Following is a tentative translation of the text of the Regulations of the People's Republic of China on the Exploitation of Offshore Petroleum Resources in Co-operation with Foreign Enterprises. — Ed.*

## Chapter I General Principles

### Article 1

In the interest of developing the national economy, expanding international economic and technological co-operation and safeguarding national sovereignty and economic interests, these regulations are formulated to permit foreign enterprises to participate in the co-operative exploitation of offshore petroleum resources of the People's Republic of China.

### Article 2

All petroleum resources in the internal waters, territorial waters and continental shelf of the People's Republic of China and the maritime resources in all waters within the limits of national jurisdiction of the People's Republic of China are owned by the People's Republic of China.

All buildings and structures installed in the aforementioned sea areas to exploit petroleum and vessels serving the petroleum operations, as well as the corresponding onshore oil and/or gas terminals and bases are under the jurisdiction of the People's Republic of China.

### Article 3

The Government of the People's Republic of China protects, in accordance with the legislations in force, investments by foreign enterprises participating in the exploitation of offshore petroleum resources, their share of profit and

other legitimate rights and interests, and their activities in co-operative exploitation.

All co-operative activities to exploit offshore petroleum resources within the scope of the regulations shall comply with the laws and decrees of the People's Republic of China and relevant state stipulations. All persons and enterprises taking part in the petroleum operations shall be bound by the laws of China and shall accept inspection and supervision by the competent authorities of the Chinese Government.

### Article 4

The Ministry of Petroleum Industry of the People's Republic of China is the competent authority in charge of the exploitation of offshore petroleum resources in co-operation with foreign enterprises. The ministry determines forms of co-operation and demarcates areas for co-operative exploitation in accordance with the zones and surface area designated by the state. It works out plans for the exploitation of offshore petroleum resources in co-operation with foreign enterprises in accordance with the long-term state economic programme, formulates operational and management policies, examines and approves the overall development programme for offshore oil and/or gas fields.

### Article 5

The China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) is in full charge of the work of exploiting offshore petroleum resources in the People's Republic of China in co-operation with foreign enterprises.

CNOOC is a state corporation with the qualification of a juridical person which has the exclusive right to explore for petroleum within the areas of co-operation and to develop, produce and market it.

CNOOC may establish regional subsidiaries, specialized companies and overseas offices to carry out the tasks entrusted by the head office as the work requires.

#### Article 6

CNOOC shall, by calling for bids and entering into petroleum contracts with foreign enterprises, exploit offshore petroleum resources in co-operation with foreign enterprises in accordance with the zones, surface area and areas demarcated for co-operative exploitation.

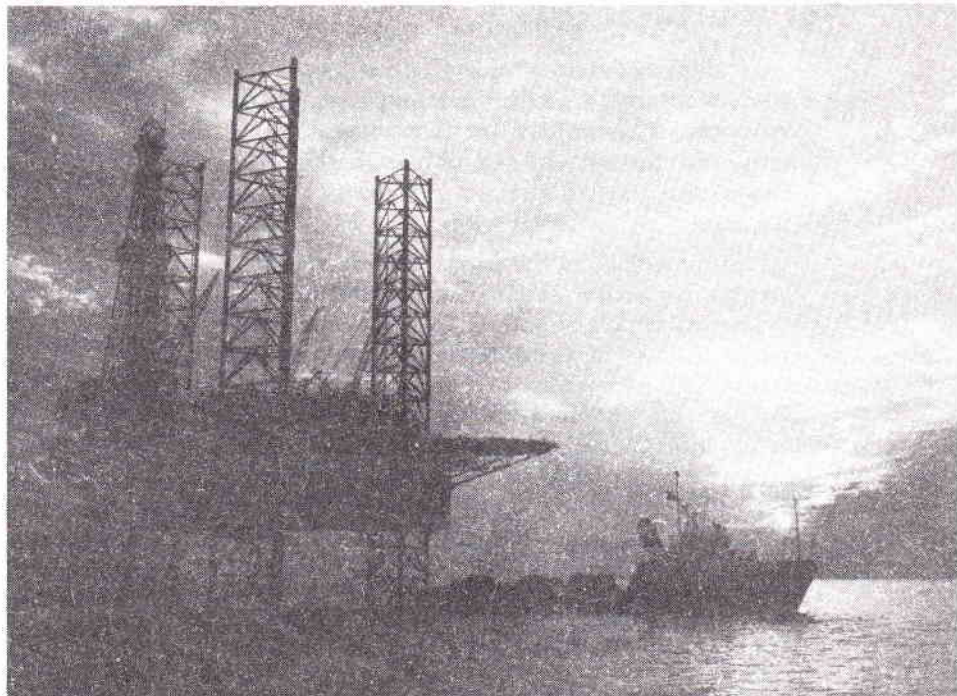
Petroleum contracts referred to in the preceding paragraph shall come into force after approval by the Foreign Investment Commission of the People's Republic of China.

All documents signed by CNOOC in other forms of co-operative exploitation of petroleum resources utilizing technology and funds provided by foreign enterprises shall also be subject to approval by the Foreign Investment Commission of the People's Republic of China.

### Chapter II Rights and Obligations of The Parties to Petroleum Contracts

#### Article 7

CNOOC shall exploit offshore petroleum resources in co-operation with foreign enterprises by entering into petroleum contracts. Unless otherwise specified by the Ministry of Petroleum Industry or in the petroleum contract, the foreign enterprise that is one party to the contract (hereinafter foreign contractor) shall provide exploration investment, undertake exploration operations and bear all exploration risks. After a commercial oil and/or gas field is discovered, both the foreign contractor and CNOOC shall make investment in the co-operative development. The foreign contractor shall be responsible for the development and production operations until CNOOC takes over the production operations when conditions permit under the petroleum contract. The foreign contractor may recover its investment and expenses



The "Nanhai No. 1," an automatic oil rig imported from abroad, has drilled several deep wells into the industrial oil and gas strata in the Yinggehai area of the Beibu Gulf.

and receive remuneration out of the petroleum produced according to the provisions of the petroleum contract.

#### Article 8

The foreign contractor may export the petroleum it receives as its share and/or purchases and remit abroad the investment it recovers, its profit and other legitimate income according to law.

#### Article 9

All Chinese and foreign enterprises involved in the exploitation of offshore petroleum resources shall pay taxes in accordance with the tax laws of the People's Republic of China and pay royalties.

Any employee of the said enterprises in the preceding paragraph shall pay individual income tax according to law.

#### Article 10

The equipment and materials imported for the implementation of the petroleum contract shall be exempted from customs, or levied customs at a reduced rate, or given other preferential treatment in accordance with state regulations.

#### Article 11

The foreign contractor shall open a bank account in accordance with the stipulations of the Provisional Regulations for Exchange Control of the People's Republic of China.

#### Article 12

In implementing the petroleum contract, the foreign contractor shall use appropriate and advanced technology and managerial experience and is obliged to transfer the technology and pass on the experience to the personnel of the Chinese side involved in the implementation (hereinafter Chinese personnel). In the course of petroleum operations, the foreign contractor must give preference to the Chinese personnel in employment, keep the percentage of Chinese steadily rising, and train the Chinese personnel in a planned way.

#### Article 13

In the course of implementing the petroleum contract, the foreign contractor must accurately report the petroleum operations to CNOOC in due time; and during the operations it must acquire complete and accurate data, records, samples, vouchers and other original data, and regularly submit to CNOOC the necessary data and samples as well as technological, economic, financing and accounting and administrative reports.

#### Article 14

For the implementation of the petroleum contract, the foreign contractor shall establish its subsidiary or branch or representative office within the territory of the People's Republic of China and fulfil the registration formalities according to law.

The domiciles of the subsidiaries, branches and representative offices mentioned in the preceding paragraph shall be determined through consultation with CNOOC.

#### Article 15

The provisions of Articles 3, 8, 9, 10 and 14 of the regulations shall apply to foreign subcontractors which render services to the petroleum operations.

### Chapter III Petroleum Operations

#### Article 16

In order to achieve the highest practicable ultimate oil recovery, the operator shall work

out an overall development plan for each oil and/or gas field and conduct the production operations in accordance with these regulations and the relevant rules promulgated by the Ministry of Petroleum Industry on exploitation of petroleum resources and with reference to international practice.

#### Article 17

For the implementation of the petroleum contract, the foreign contractor shall use the existing bases within the territory of the People's Republic of China. If a new base is needed, it shall be established within the territory of the People's Republic of China.

The location of the new base and such arrangements as may be necessary in special circumstances shall be subject to prior written approval from CNOOC.

#### Article 18

CNOOC has the right to send personnel to join the foreign operator in making master designs and engineering designs for the implementation of the petroleum contract. Design corporations within the territory of the People's Republic of China shall have priority in entering into subcontracts for the master designs and engineering designs, provided that the terms offered by these design corporations are competitive.

#### Article 19

The operator must give preference to manufacturers and engineering companies within the territory of the People's Republic of China in concluding subcontracts for all facilities to be built in implementing the petroleum contract, including artificial islands, platforms, buildings and structures, provided that they are competitive in quality, price, term of delivery and services.

#### Article 20

As for the equipment and materials required to implement the petroleum contract, the operator and subcontractors shall give preference to procuring and using equipment and materials manufactured and supplied by the People's Republic of China, provided that these are competitive.

#### Article 21

As for the services required to implement the petroleum contract, including services for



geophysical prospecting, well drilling, diving, helicopter, vessels and onshore bases, the operator and subcontractors shall enter into subcontracts and service contracts with relevant enterprises within the territory of the People's Republic of China, provided that these services are competitive in price, efficiency and service quality.

#### Article 22

All assets purchased and built by the foreign contractor for implementation of the petroleum contract in accordance with the plan and budget shall be owned entirely by CNOOC when the foreign contractor has fully recovered its investment for those assets (but the rental equipment from any third party is excluded). Within the term of the petroleum contract, the foreign contractor may continue to use those assets in accordance with the provisions of the contract.

#### Article 23

CNOOC is the owner of all the data, records, samples, vouchers and other original data obtained in the course of the petroleum operations, as provided in Article 13 of the regulations.



A new generation of offshore oil workers brought up during the oil exploration in the South China Sea.

The utilization, transfer, donation, exchange, sale and publication of the aforementioned data, records, samples, vouchers and other original data and their delivery and transmission to outside the People's Republic of China shall be conducted in accordance with the Rules on the Control of Data and Information formulated by the Ministry of Petroleum Industry.

#### Article 24

The operator and subcontractors shall carry out the petroleum operations in compliance with the laws and rules on environmental protection and safety of the People's Republic of China, and with reference to international practice to protect fishery and other natural resources and prevent the air, seas, rivers, lakes and the land from being polluted or damaged.

#### Article 25

The petroleum produced within the petroleum contract area shall be landed in the territory of the People's Republic of China or may be exported from oil and/or gas metering point of offshore terminals. In case such petroleum has to be landed outside the territory of the People's Republic of China, the approval of the Ministry of Petroleum Industry must be obtained.

#### Article 26

In case of war, threat of war or other emergency circumstances, the Government of the People's Republic of China shall have the right to requisition a portion or all of the petroleum obtained and/or purchased by the foreign contractor.

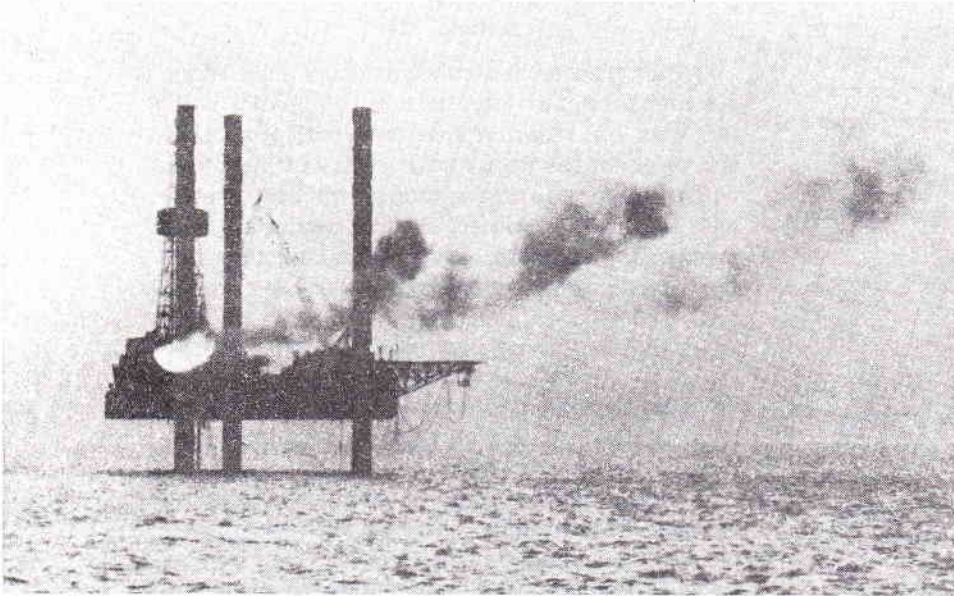
### Chapter IV Supplementary Provisions

#### Article 27

Any dispute arising between foreign and Chinese enterprises during the co-operative exploitation of offshore petroleum resources shall be settled amicably through consultations. If the parties to the dispute fail to arrive at a solution through consultation, the dispute may be settled through mediation or arbitration by an arbitration body of the People's Republic of China, or through arbitration by another arbitration body agreed upon by both parties.

#### Article 28

In case an operator or a subcontractor violates the regulations in conducting petroleum operations, the Ministry of Petroleum Industry is authorized to warn the operator or subcontractor and demand remedy within a limited time. Should the operator or subcontractor fail to remedy the violation within the specified time, the ministry shall have the right to take necessary steps, even to the extent of suspending its right to conduct the petroleum operations.



An oil and gas well with a daily output of 1,000 tons has been drilled at the Sino-Japanese co-operation area in the Bohai Sea.

All economic losses so incurred shall be borne by the party responsible.

The party responsible for serious violation of the regulations shall be fined or even be sued before juridical authorities by the Ministry of Petroleum Industry.

#### Article 29

The terms used in the regulations shall be defined as follows:

(1) "Petroleum" means crude oil or natural gas deposited underground and produced or being produced therefrom.

(2) "Exploitation" means, in general, activities related to exploration, development, production and marketing of petroleum as well as other related activities.

(3) "Petroleum contract" means the contract for the exploration for, and development and production of petroleum signed, under the legislation in force, between CNOOC and foreign enterprises for the co-operative exploitation of offshore petroleum resources of the People's Republic of China.

(4) "Contract area" means an offshore area demarcated by geographical co-ordinates for the co-operative exploitation of petroleum resources under the petroleum contract.

(5) "Petroleum operations" means all exploration, development and production operations carried out in the implementation of the

petroleum contract, and other related activities.

(6) "Exploration operations" means all the work done in locating the petroleum-bearing traps by means of geological, geophysical and geochemical methods and exploratory drilling, and all work to determine the commerciality of the discovered petroleum traps, including appraisal drilling, feasibility studies and preparation for the overall development plan of any oil and or gas field.

(7) "Development operations" means all the work of designing, construction, installation, drilling and other relevant research work carried

out for petroleum production from the date of the approval of the overall development plan of oil and or gas field by the Ministry of Petroleum Industry, including production activities carried out before the commencement of commercial production.

(8) "Production operations" means all the operations carried out after the date of commencement of the commercial production of an oil and/or gas field for producing petroleum and related activities, such as extraction, injection, stimulation, processing, storage, transportation and lifting of petroleum, etc.

(9) "Foreign contractor" refers to a foreign enterprise which may be a company or consortium entering into the petroleum contract with CNOOC.

(10) "Operator" refers to an entity, which is responsible for performing the operations under the petroleum contract.

(11) "Subcontractor" refers to an entity which renders services to the operator.

#### Article 30

The detailed rules and regulations for the implementation of the regulations shall be worked out by the Ministry of Petroleum Industry.

#### Article 31

The regulations shall come into force on the date of its promulgation.

*(Promulgated on January 30, 1982)*

# Broadcasting Serves the People

by Our Correspondent Ling Yang

**Radio enjoys attentive audiences throughout China's huge and diversified population. In big cities like Beijing, perhaps not a single family is without a radio, and some have more than one. In rural areas, transistor radios are rapidly gaining popularity. If these are added to the communication system created by the maze of wires from public address systems to loudspeakers in peasant homes, broadcasting has a larger audience than newspapers have.**



Office building of the Central Broadcasting Administrative Bureau in Beijing.

## Local Stations

**C**HINA has only one network, which links the Central People's Broadcasting Station in the capital to local stations in the provinces, autonomous regions and cities. Each station is state funded and is run not as a business, but as a social service. Yet, like other media — TV, newspapers and magazines — each station designs its own programming.

Local stations are the news centres in their areas. They air

national and provincial news, as well as a variety of programming from music to sports and educational forums, each of which is broadcast on a different band. They also devote a dozen or so hours a day to their own programming, geared to local interests.

Good local stations can be found on China's east coast, the richest and most developed and densely populated part of the country. Especially notable

are the stations in Jiangsu and Zhejiang Provinces and in Shanghai.

The station in the Jiangsu provincial capital, Nanjing, on the lower reaches of the Changjiang River begins its news day early in the morning. At 6:30 a.m. local residents can hear the national news programme relayed from Beijing. The half-hour broadcast covers the latest national news plus excerpts from the big national newspapers. This is followed at 7:00 a.m. by provincial news.

The news items on a recent Jiangsu local broadcast were: The technical level of the province's textile industry has been greatly improved, which was attributed to the campaign to learn from Shanghai; measures were being taken to improve yields in coastal cotton and wheat fields; A Tibetan woman named Phanthog who once scaled the world's highest peak — the Qomolangma — will be appointed vice-director of the commission of physical culture in her husband's home town, Wuxi; an American folk music ensemble, performing the previous night in Nanjing, presented songs and dances. . . .

Since last June the station has launched an evening news broadcast at 8:30 p.m. entitled "Jiangsu News Briefs," which summarizes the top 10 local news items of the day. The new programme, covering anything from the highlights of the latest industrial, agricultural or scientific research results to the cracking of a criminal case that very afternoon, has become very popular.

### A Sampling of Regular Local Programmes

**"On the New Long March."** The Jiangsu station regularly airs features about China's modernization drive, a strenuous task which is often compared with the Long March undertaken by the Red Army in the 1930s. Recent stories focused on the lives and works of particular scientists, professors, teachers, doctors, artists, calligraphers, writers, athletes and coaches — all of whom made noteworthy contributions to building socialism and to cultural development. By honouring and encouraging these individuals, the station provided vivid examples for listeners in all walks of life.

**"The Science Garden."** A regular programme of the Zhejiang station, has been acclaimed by audiences as their "good teacher and friend." In the course of a month it has dealt with such diverse areas of science as the use of space satellites for meteorological research and the new theories about where does life begin. In response to listeners' demand, the programme includes subjects like information about snakes commonly observed in summer and how to operate electric fans and washing machines. It also disseminates medical information on topics like infant nutrition and menopause. The secret lives of jelly-fish and eels have been covered, as have profiles of foreign scientists.

The three women who are responsible for "The Science Garden" do their best to dig up short, interesting items with local ramifications, such as a scientific method of silkworm breeding, the radon content in mountain spring water, and power generation by the tides.

**"Across the Province."** Both of these stations share a regular programme covering regional natural scenes and geography, local foods, flowers, handicrafts, cultural relics, historical sites, habits and customs, important historical figures, construction achievements and special products.

An example of colourful coverage was a 15 minute segment on Shaoxing. The pro-

## China's First People's Broadcasting Station

**N**EW China's first broadcast was transmitted in 1940 from Yanan, the revolutionary headquarters during the hard days of the War of Resistance Against Japan.

Equipped with a transmitting set that Zhou Enlai had brought back from abroad, the station was housed in several cave dwellings half way up a mountain. Its electricity was generated from the motor of a used car fuelled by gas made by burning charcoal. At the beginning, the station only had a transmitting power of 300 watts. It broadcast twice a day, one hour each time. The broadcasts were interrupted two years later because a tube in the transmitting set was out of order, and could not be replaced until 1945. Two years later the station began to broadcast in English and after two more years in Japanese.

The station broadcast news, bulletins on the war and official announcements as well as art and literary programmes. The latter at first comprised only some revolutionary songs and mouth organ music played by announcers. Because the broadcasting room was quite small and there were no recording devices, music programmes could only be aired by assembling choruses and orchestras on the slope outside the station and transmitting from there. It was not until a year after the station was established that it began to play a small number of records on a hand-operated gramophone.

However, the station played an important

role in encouraging the people during those war days. It served as the voice of the people, a "guiding light in the darkness" and a "comfort in the agony" for the listeners in those areas ruled by the reactionaries. A pilot in Shanghai crossed over to the side of the people with his plane after listening to the broadcasts from Yanan. In March 1947, the Eighth Route Army evacuated Yanan as the reactionaries attempted to annihilate the revolutionary headquarters. The common people are very much concerned about Chairman Mao, Zhou Enlai and other leaders of Yanan. The radio station sent this message across the airwaves: The Party Central Committee is still around here. Everyone is safe.

Actually, the radio station was moved to a dilapidated temple in a gully only dozens of kilometres from the front. The broadcasting room had neither doors nor window glass. Only a home-spun woollen blanket covered the open doorway. The victory of the people's army was broadcast time and again from a room like this.

Working under very hard conditions, the station moved four times before it entered Beijing in 1949 — the year the People's Republic was born. The Xinhua Broadcasting Station which had worked for the establishment of the People's Republic changed its name to the Central People's Broadcasting Station. Its spirit of hard working and serving the people has been carried on.

gramme packed in narration, interviews and music as well as lively historical tidbits. It informed listeners that stoneware unearthed in the area proved that human beings had lived there during the New Stone Age several thousand years ago. It noted that Shaoxing boasts the magnificent temple and mausoleum of the legendary King Yu of the Xia Dynasty who is said to have tamed rivers and controlled floods.

Some centuries later, it went on, Wang Xizhi of the 4th century wielded his brush in the famous Orchid Pavilion, and in the 12th century the great poet Lu You was once inspired to recite poems on a scenic lake there.

There in Shaoxing is the old house where the martyr Qiu Jin lived, and the site where she died a heroic death early in this century for opposing the feudal Qing Dynasty. The town was also the birthplace and home base of the great contemporary revolutionary writer and thinker, Lu Xun.

This Venice-like town has a multitude of beautiful bridges

of different architectural styles. Its rice wine is famous. Its marketplace is getting busier day by day . . . and so the broadcast went, to the delight of the listeners.

### Radio Commentary

Many local stations set aside special times for editorials and opinions. A station director in Shanghai with 30 years of experience behind her thought that the news programming would become more lively if the station aired its views, so the station began to broadcast commentary on local events and social issues.

When an explosion in a power plant caused a 17 million yuan loss, the radio spoke out. The damage was caused by a rat that had sneaked into the switch room for the high tension wires, resulting in a short circuit and an ensuing explosion. After the news was announced on the day of the accident, the station analysed its cause and criticized the plant. It suggested that enterprises should exercise the principle of "prevention first." In the following days, the "rat

accident" was discussed throughout the power plant and the society. As a result, people from different trades designed safety measures for their work places. Three months later, the power plant workers made up the losses suffered in the accident by overfulfilling their production quota. Once again, the plant made radio news.

The commentaries are varied, but most of them deal with current hot issues, whether concerned with ideological controversies, work or with problems of daily life. They carry commendations as well as criticisms, information as well as analysis. Human interest angles tinge many of them. One commentary described the willingness of some famous scientists to become a "human ladder" for the younger generation to "climb over," to learn from and improve upon their research. The station encouraged this attitude as an example of dedication to China's modernization drive. The ladder analogy is from a popular story about PLA soldiers in combat who climbed upon one another's

### Broadcasts in Minority Languages

**M**INORITY language broadcasts are almost as old as New China. Thirty years ago, Inner Mongolia's Hulun Buir League set up the first minority language radio programmes in the country, which has been followed by numerous others. Today, radio stations in areas inhabited by minority people offer broadcasts in the native tongues of the Mongolians, Tibetans, Uygurs, Kazakhs, Zhuangs, Dais, Lis, Miaos, Koreans, Lisus, Jingpos and

Lahus, and the Central People's Broadcasting Station, while using mainly Chinese, has also used Mongolian, Tibetan, Uygur, Kazakh and Korean.

Radio Tibet broadcasts in the Lhasa and Qamdo dialects 12 hours a days. Minorities of the Dai, Lisu, Jingpo or Lahu nationalities can tune into Radio Yunnan in China's southwest. Programmes in minority languages are broadcast in the four autonomous regions (Inner Mongolia, Xinjiang and Guangxi in addition to Tibet) and in the four provinces of Qinghai, Yunnan, Sichuan and Heilongjiang



Mongolian announcers at work.

shoulders to scale city walls and cliffs, and to cross rivers.

Another commentary reported on a teenager who had done poorly in school and behaved very badly, who turned over a new leaf with the help of his teachers, neighbours and classmates. The article contrasted the coldness and apathy of the old society with the united, friendly and comradesly relations in New China. The message was clear.

"We Attributed Our Success to Her" related the story of a housemaid who worked for Karl Marx and then for Frederick

Engels. Listeners were urged not to disparage those ordinary jobs which are also indispensable to the modernization drive. The commentary seemed to be directed at young people who imagine themselves achieving great things while failing to do their regular jobs properly.

Many Shanghai peasants are particularly fond of a commentator named Ah Fugen who delivers his broadcasts in the local dialect for their benefit. His regular programme, "Ah Fugen on Farm Production," is one of Shanghai's most well-received.

listeners. These are its main source for 40-minute news and special feature programmes, broadcast three times a day each. They also provide material for a three-hour art and literature programme.

Listeners' contributions often become brief news items or commentaries, such as how a village selected its wheat seeds, how another one called an on-the-spot meeting to popularize duckweed planting, the successful trial operation of a new machine in a farm tool plant, the results of a health survey among pre-school age children conducted by a commune hospital, and a gymnastics competition among schools.

Four editors with very diverse backgrounds are responsible for the public address centre's programming. The senior editor is a veteran who started working there not long after the station was established in the 1950s, the news editor is a former local reporter and the features editor was transferred from the county's cultural centre.

The youngest editor is learning on the job, which she began immediately after her recent graduation from a teachers' training college. Because she is an avid radio fan, she is an enthusiastic student of the skills and techniques of editing.

The four make up an effective team that inspires confidence among the station's listeners. Before the summer harvest a left-handed peasant wrote asking them to order a special sickle for him from the farm tool plant. Others asked for assistance with problems like how to treat bedwetting and how to treat freckles.

The centre's "Listeners' Box" programme answers a letter

## Wire Communications in the Countryside

**P**ERHAPS the most unique aspect of China's broadcast communication are the rural public address systems which connect every peasant home by a spiderweb of wires to the commune leadership or county station. The system allows leaders to deliver messages directly into each home loudspeaker and to relay radio programming across the wires to the peasants, many of whom do not own radios.

It was installed in the early 1950s. At that time, many rural areas had little or no access to the information or entertainment available in major cultural centres. This system is a vital connector between rural residents and the rest of the country.

Today the rural communes are the production organizers and grass-roots political units. The county-funded communications centre is located in the county seat.

### In a County Communications Centre

The colourful local stories broadcast by the Nantong public address centre indicates its close links with the local people in this cotton growing area on the lower reaches of the Changjiang River. It has some 3,000 part-time reporters from different trades among the county's 1.5 million people, most of whom are peasants. They turn in stories, supply tips, relay audience reaction to particular programmes, and comment on the general effects of the broadcasts.

Among this huge number of part-time writers (about four-fifths of the total are peasants), one is the deputy county head, another is the director of the county grain bureau and several others are commune leaders.

On an ordinary day the centre receives some 100 articles and a dozen or so letters from



Tibetan peasants in Nedong County, Tibet, tuning to a news broadcast.

every day about problems of policy, production or life style.

The station also carries regular five-minute news summaries garnered from national news media and local sources. As a result listeners learnt the results of the county head election only 10 minutes after the votes were counted. When the price of pork was to be lowered for seasonal reason, the public

address centre announced the news a day in advance and reassured the peasants that the state's purchasing price for pigs would not change as a result. When the weather station forecast an unusually strong wind, the home loudspeakers not only carried the news, but suggested preventive measures.

The success of the wire broadcasts can in large measure be attributed to the contributions of the peasant and worker reporters scattered in every corner of the county. It appears that the more the four editors come into contact with the people, the closer friends they make, and the better and more insightful stories they broadcast. Despite the increasing prevalence of transistor radios these days, the peasants are reluctant to part with the tiny loudspeakers in the corner of their homes.

## Tuning in, Beijing Style

**M**USIC, sports and news are among the most popular offerings on Beijing's two radio stations. Both the national and municipal stations transmit three kinds of programming on different wave lengths. In addition, the municipal station airs a comprehensive educational package in academic fields like Chinese grammar, rhetoric, well-written articles at home and abroad and history, and presents special forums for middle and primary school teachers on subjects like psychology and Chinese.

### The Musical Third

Outstanding recordings by both Chinese and foreign musicians have filled many

radio hours in recent years, more frequently since the central station began broadcasting on an FM metre-band one year ago. Music accounts for about one-third of all radio broadcasts in China.

National contests in the entertainment world are heard, as are theatrical festivals of various distinctive local and national styles. Most performances are by first-class troupes, including the central station's own traditional Chinese musical ensemble, choral group and orchestra.

Care is given to presenting new and interesting selections, such as a recital on ancient chime bells of Chinese and

foreign classical and modern melodies. On another occasion the station aired electronic music.

Musical broadcasts are seen as more than pleasant entertainment and physical relaxation, but as an invisible conservatory. In addition to acquainting the listeners with masterpieces (with brief explanations of their historical contexts), over the past 12 months the central station alone has systematically aired more than 100 revolutionary songs that represent the various stages in the Chinese people's movements since the 1920s.

During the same period, the station entertained audiences with 35 prize-winning orchestra pieces from a national music contest, and profiled the composer of each.

Last summer it aired a 24-part music series, complete with marches, serenades, concertos, symphonies and dance music ranging from waltz to disco. The station's special features have covered major West-European composers and representative masterpieces of the classical, romantic, impressionist and modern schools.

Another feature is special interest programmes that teach, say, how to play a mouth organ.

### Sportscasters As Guides

By comparison to the time allotted to music, sports is a lesser portion of broadcasting, with only a small amount of air time. But live broadcasts of sports games, which double as the sportscasts for television, are perennial attractions for millions upon millions of Chinese listeners, old and young.



Song Shixiong announcing the Third World Cup Women's Volleyball Tournament in Japan.

The two announcers of the central broadcasting station who covered the volleyball world cup tournament in Japan November last year are China's most popular ringside sports reporting stars. Zhang Zhi, who was China's first physical culture announcer in the 1950s, is renowned for his appealing and vibrant tenor speaking voice. He began as a versatile announcer capable of both serious news reporting and lyric literary and art reporting. His younger protege, Song Shixiong, 42, has reported 360 live sports games since he made his debut in the 1960s.

Both are nicknamed a "guide in the sports world." Matching vivid descriptions with penetrating comments, they doggedly follow the ups and downs of every game they cover, while simultaneously acquainting the listeners with relevant sports rules and the backgrounds of each player and each contesting team.

Both men are champions of friendship between the peoples

of China and other countries. Last year, in a keenly contested football (soccer) game in Beijing between China and Kuwait, the Chinese goalkeeper caught the ball in a valiant diving action. When the action stopped, the impressed Kuwaiti shooter shook hands with him and offered congratulations. This was not lost on the announcer, who immediately brought it to the attention of his audience. He quoted the visiting team captain, who had said just before the game began. "We came to this contest for the sake of friendship and we'll congratulate whoever wins."

### Hundreds of Millions of News Fans

It is no exaggeration to say that, among all mass media, the "News and Highlights of Newspapers" programme broadcast by the central broadcasting station has the largest audience.

This programme keeps listeners abreast of the day's important happenings, and quotes news and comments from the country's dozen or so major newspapers. Indeed, it has

become part and parcel of the lives of people across the land.

Whether in Beijing and Shanghai or in small villages in remote areas, it is not uncommon to see people doing morning exercises while listening to the programme on a transistor radio hanging from a tree or bicycling to work with radios attached to their bicycles or tucked in their pockets. Villagers also listen to it on loudspeakers wired into their homes through county-run public address systems.

Small wonder that radio broadcasting has become the handiest instrument of communications for people on the Tibet plateau and other out-of-the-way regions. For the convenience of its listeners, the central broadcasting station airs news programmes—ranging from five to 30 minutes each time—hourly from four to nine o'clock every morning. And for listeners who miss the morning broadcasts, news is on again at eight every night, with the day's happening added in of course.



In a recording room of the Central People's Broadcasting Station.



## Reaching Audiences Abroad

**R**ADIO PEKING, which aims at overseas audiences, uses 38 languages. These include: Albanian, Arabic, Bengali, Bulgarian, Burmese, Kampuchean, Czech, English, Esperanto, French, Malay, Lao, Korean, Japanese, Italian, Indonesian, Magyar, Hindi, Hausa, German, Serbo-Croatian, Russian, Romanian, Pushto, Portuguese, Polish, Filipino, Persian, Nepalese, Mongolian, Vietnamese, Urdu, Thai, Tamil, Turkish, Swahili, Spanish and Sinhalese. It also uses Mandarin and Cantonese, Hakka, Xiamen and Caozhou dialects.

English-speaking Radio Peking features a rich repertoire of news, commentary and music. The following weekly or twice-weekly special items are so arranged that each daily broadcast includes a variety of items designed to appeal to listeners with diverse interests:

"Across the Land" and "China in Construction" are reports on national developments in various fields; "The Land and the People" deals with minority peoples in China.

"The Third World Marches On" carries augmented international news reporting.

"Travel Talk" is a weekly guide to scenic spots and places of interest.

"Profile" gives vivid descriptions of individuals in various trades.

"Culture in China" broadcasts novels in episodes and introduces new archaeological discoveries, Chinese arts and crafts, traditional Chinese paintings, theatrical festivals and dramatic hits. Interviews with celebrities of the cultural world are also featured.

"Sports" and "Music From China" are indispensable items.

"Music Album" has already acquainted the foreign listeners with dozens of traditional Chinese musical instruments.

"Learn to Speak Chinese" tries to be practical.

The bi-weekly "Listeners' Letter Box" answers miscellaneous questions. Recent topics included how to use medicinal herbs and how China arranges jobs for young people.

Radio Peking has maintained wide contacts with its audience. Last year, it received letters from its listeners in 142 countries and regions.

Dozens of "Radio Peking Listeners Clubs" have sprung up in Pakistan. From remote areas in Nigeria, people wrote that the broadcasts have "built a bridge of friendship between China and Africa."

For the timetable for Radio Peking's English language transmissions, see back page of *Beijing Review* issue No. 4, 1982.



Radio Peking staff working against a deadline to file stories.

The half-hour lunch-time programme "News and Miscellaneous," with first-hand accounts and musical accompaniments, brings the news more quickly and at a more convenient time to people in remote and rural areas. Listeners' comments and question-answering are an integral part of the programme.

## Teaching Foreign Languages

The half-hour "English on Sunday" opens with a lively Schubert piano piece, lending the broadcast a special air. Anchored by a woman associate professor of the Beijing College of International Relations, the six-month-old programme presents lectures by visiting scholars, experts, tourists and students from the US, Britain and Australia.

Chinese scholars studying abroad also contribute segments to the show, writing about their impressions of the countries they've visited, including anything from the landscape and climate, to habits and hobbies, to the important social issues there.

Some listeners said that "English on Sunday" had accomplished more than polishing the listening ability of the audience, who were mostly scientific workers and students. It had also deepened their understanding and feelings of friendship towards English-speaking countries and peoples.

The municipal station also airs selected English language readings in literature and science as well as a 10-minute programme entitled "English for Pre-School Children."

The municipal station offers other foreign language instruction such as rudimentary Japanese and French. □

OPINION

### Mental Health for the Elderly

TWO Wuhan Medical College researchers specializing in gerontology recommend the following measures for the elderly to help them maintain good psychological health:

1. Maintain self-confidence, have self-respect and be open and optimistic.

Modern science shows that human intelligence does not necessarily decline when one grows old, and that in terms of solving practical problems, older people can be much better than younger ones. These attributes can be achieved through a conscious effort to be active after retirement. Retirees should continue to pay attention to their former career and interests so that their later years are a significant life period. The elderly are best off when they can perceive the advantages of old age, be content in their material possessions and learn ways to relax when they feel worry or tension.

2. Increase social activities and maintain a peaceful family. After retirement, special efforts should be made to have regular contact with friends and neighbours and to remain on good terms with family members. Modern investigations on lifespan shows that those who have harmonious families live an average of five years longer than those who are alone (mainly unmarried or divorced people).

3. Cultivate healthy habits and look for amusing pastimes.

Loneliness often goes hand-in-hand with aimlessness. People who are short-sighted or have narrow interests tend to fall into debilitating feelings of emp-

LIFE

### The "Phantom" Was Called Up By...

*"Money makes the mare go" was a common expression in old China, where unscrupulous people were willing to perform reprehensible deeds to make themselves rich.*

*Even in New China some people are bewitched by money and pay no attention to ethics. Usually the courts can't touch them because they fall short of violating the law, but their despicable actions arouse public condemnation. Some newspapers have begun to run regular "Moral Court" columns that expose and criticize such people. The following is from Shanghai's "Wenhui Bao." — Ed.*

A STAFF member at a mental institution in the city's suburbs tells of a woman with a mournful expression on her face who arrived one day to perform a sad duty.

"I'm Wang Qun," she said. "My brother Wang Qing was committed to this institution and died here. I want to collect his ashes from you so they can be buried in our home town."

tiness. It is recommended that the elderly cultivate healthy and varied hobbies such as physical exercise, calligraphy, chess, music and gardening.

4. Reorganize your time. A retiree needs a new plan for daily life. Plans for a day, a week or a couple of months in advance helps keep one's eyes on the future.

("To Your Good Health")

"From whom did you hear of your brother's death?" inquired the staff member.

"From my niece — his daughter. For years I heard nothing from my brother and I began to worry that he had died. Recently my niece told me it was true, but that she had neglected to let me know. . . ." The woman began to rail vehemently against the daughter for mistreating her father and failing to perform her filial duty.

What made Wang Qun, who had never visited her brother before, suddenly think of retrieving his remains? Why was she so concerned with her niece's misdeeds?

Money.

It seems that in the 1930s, a foreign corporation sold its shares to Chinese people. In 1980, it decided to pay its shareholders and wrote to them with this welcome offer, which could amount to a tidy sum for people with a number of shares.

One letter from the company arrived in a Shanghai neighbourhood addressed to Wang Shun; but no Wang Shun could be found. Because Wang is a common name, the neighbourhood committee and public security had a difficult time finding the right man. Finally they talked with some elderly residents of the area who remembered Wang. They said he had died and that his son had disappeared to a mental institution many years ago. These clues eventually led the officials to the shareholder's granddaughter, Wang Xiaobao.

When she told them her father was dead, Wang Xiaobao was instructed to consult her relatives and divide the windfall appropriately. Money brought together long estranged family members, and like a fuse, set off a series of struggles between them. Wang Xiaobao and Wang Qun were the shareholder's two closest relatives, and each claimed she was entitled to a larger share of the inheritance.

The moral truth was that neither deserved much. After the shareholder died, the family erupted into a feud, causing his son Wang Qing to collapse into a mental disorder. In response, Wang Qing's wife divorced him and remarried. He lived with his daughter for a while, but she had him committed to the psychiatric sanatorium in 1963, and once he was there, she refused to pay for his living and medical expenses. The institution authorities could do nothing except ask the state to shoulder these quite substantial costs amounting to thousands of yuan.

For 20 years, not a soul, not even his sister visited Wang Qing. He became a "phantom" of the family. Wang Xiaobao would have nothing to do with

her father and did not care if he was alive or dead. The gossip among the neighbours was that she was such a terrible daughter that she did not even retrieve his ashes after his death.

Seizing on this opportunity to discredit her niece's claim to the inheritance, Wang Qun rushed to the sanatorium to collect the ashes.

But, what would have flooded someone else with joy came as a rude shock to Wang Qun.

**I**N receiving foreign guests, the young waiters and waitresses of the eight hotels in Shanghai uphold the following principle: No tips, no presents and return everything you find. As a result, they have often been praised by foreigners, overseas Chinese and Xianggang (Hong-



kong) and Aomen (Macao) compatriots.

Incomplete statistics show that from January to September 1981, they had kindly refused tips and presents 800 times, and they had returned by various ways and means nearly 100 cameras, some 50 wrist watches,

"Wang Qing is still living here," the sanatorium staff member told her. Wang Qun could not believe her eyes when her brother stood in front of her.

The staff member who told the story sighed, "I don't think she would ever have set foot on this piece of land if it weren't for the inheritance. Once the money is divided, I'm sure Wang Qing will be erased from his family's conscience and become a 'phantom' once again."

## The Youth's Style

not a few pieces of jewelry and foreign currency equal to 100,000 yuan RMB.

Han Yujing of the International Hotel found a wallet containing 3,500 pounds sterling and a gold ring while cleaning the dining hall. Han immediately turned it over to the hotel administrator. The delighted British guest whose ring and money was quickly returned could say nothing but "thanks, thanks a million."

Recently, an overseas Chinese woman residing in France was in such a hurry to get to the Shanghai airport that she accidentally left her jewelry in her Jingan Hotel room. The jewels, valued at more than 500 yuan RMB, luckily were found just after her departure. The finder, Fang Lili, rushed to hand them over to the service counter, which immediately dispatched them in a car to the airport. The words of the grateful recipient, Liu Shaozhen, were: "Shanghai is pretty. That is the impression I got. But the spirit of the Shanghai people is even prettier."

(*Zhongguo Qingnian Bao*)

## SEISMOLOGY

**Earthquake Prediction**

Chinese seismologists using information from amateur earthquake prediction stations to supplement their own data have since 1978 accurately forecast a number of earthquakes.

The amateur earthquake prediction station in Mengzi County, Yunnan Province, issued repeated forecasts before a tremor of 5.8 magnitude on the Richter scale shook the area on June 18, 1980. Based on the station's reports of June 2, 3 and 12, the county government on June 16 ordered evacuation of people from their houses. Another station in Yingjiang County, Yunnan Province, also correctly forewarned of a tremor of 5.4 magnitude which occurred on July 7, 1981. Before the quake, the county seismological office had advised the commune situated at the epicentre to take precautionary measures.

In 1,206 counties and prefectures the State Seismological Bureau has set up seismological offices which use modern observation and recording equipment to make predictions. Seismologists forecasted the 7.3 magnitude earthquake that occurred in the southern part of Liaoning Province on February 4, 1975, but failed to predict the enormous Tangshan earthquake of July 28, 1976.

In addition, 5,107 amateur earthquake prediction stations cover China's areas of seismic unrest. These stations began to be set up after an earthquake shook Xingtai Prefecture, Hebei Province, in 1966. Over 20,000 nonprofessionals staff homemade magnetometers and in-

struments for measuring changes in terrestrial electricity and crustal stress. In addition, 50,000 people regularly observe and record possible signs of coming earthquakes, such as sudden changes in the water table of wells and unusual behaviour of insects, birds and other animals. Members of these stations help seismologists disseminate knowledge about earthquakes and, when a quake does occur, assist in the rescue work.

Last November representatives from different amateur stations gathered at a meeting called by the National Seismological Bureau to discuss their experiences.

**Observation of Underground Water**

A network of 48 wells for earthquake study and prediction was established last November in Beijing-Tianjin-Tangshan region, an area covering 80,000 square kilometres.

The wells, ranging in depth from 300 m to 3,200 m, were all dug at sensitive points in the fault zone. They are equipped with scientific instruments and manned by specially trained personnel. The level of underground water, its temperature and chemical composition are monitored and the data are transmitted to seismic research centres.

According to records of over 60 earthquakes since 1966, underground water shows some unusual signs before a quake. The water level rises or falls, sometimes so rapidly that the wells either overflow or become dry; the pressure, temperature and composition of the water.

the proportion of radon, hydrogen, chlorine and calcium, all change greatly. This has significant implications for earthquake prediction. The 1975 Haicheng quake in Liaoning Province and two 1976 earthquakes, Songpan in Sichuan Province and Longling in Yunnan Province, were predicted with the help of data gathered from well monitors.

**An Earthquake Site**

Chinese seismologists and geologists are investigating a well-preserved earthquake site in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

An earthquake of 8 magnitude on the Richter scale took place on August 11, 1931, in Fuyun County of the Altay Mountain region. It was such a tremendous tremor that it was felt in northern Xinjiang, the Hexi Corridor of Gansu Province and vast areas of Mongolia and the Soviet Union.

Since 1972, scientists from the Xinjiang Seismological Bureau and the State Seismological Bureau have conducted five studies at the site.

Based on geological and geomorphological investigations and study of samples gathered and data from satellites, scientists have found that the intensity of the most seriously affected area was 10 or 11 magnitude. The land was displaced along faults totalling 180 kilometres long; the largest level slip was 14 metres; rocks, ridges, gullies, mountains, river valleys and vegetation, all were displaced. At the epicentre, there was a fissure of 1,500 metres long, 500 metres wide and 50 metres deep.

This research will add to scientific knowledge about the

cause and process of earthquakes and the laws governing them in China's continent. Such information is vital to earthquake prediction.

### Prehistoric Earthquakes

The question of how to identify traces of prehistoric earthquakes in China were discussed at a recent symposium held in Xian, Shaanxi Province. The 17 papers read at the symposium dealt with various patterns of earthquakes in different prehistoric periods and regions of China, as a dozen or so such earthquake sites were found in Ningxia, Beijing, Shanxi and eight other provinces in recent years.

Prehistoric earthquakes left their vestiges in geological and geomorphological changes: Faults, liquefaction of sand, landslides and collapses and ejection of water and sands. Recording of these phenomena is unprecedented in China. This research will help in delimiting zones of earthquake intensity and forecasting earthquake hazards. It will also identify areas of potentially strong quakes and the cycle of such occurrences, i.e., the intervals between intense tremors.

In the vicinity of the Qingshui River, a tributary of the Huanghe (Yellow) River, in Ningxia, scientists have discovered a series of faults, liquefaction of sand layers and the ejection of water and sands all caused by earthquakes over the last half a million years. In this region, there are vestiges of many large landslides resulting from quakes 10,000 years ago and a subsidence area three by one kilometres. These traces also testify to the characteristics that strong earthquakes can happen repeatedly in the same area.

The Linfen Basin in the lower reaches of the Fenhe River in southern Shanxi Province is a typical early mid-Pleistocene lake sedimentary basin. Through the study of some 20 earthquake sections, scientists have detected a relationship between the composition of a basin and earthquake activities and laws governing the damage of shallow sliding in lake sedimentary layers caused by a strong earthquake. Traces of prehistoric earthquakes show that this basin was tremor active 200,000 to 300,000 years ago.

### Recorded Ancient Quakes

A forest of tablets recording earthquakes in Chinese history has recently been exhibited in Xichang, capital of the Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture in Sichuan Province after many years of collecting by seismologists.

The forest of tablets has 108 steles collected from ancient government offices, temples, ancestral halls, city walls, schools, bridges, cofferdam, graves, etc. in this area. These tablets record four strong earthquakes in the history of Liangshan area including the time of the quakes, foreshocks, majorshocks and aftershocks, the localities they affected, the destruction caused, and the death toll. The four earthquakes occurred in the fifth Yuanfeng year under the reign of Emperor Wu Di in the Han Dynasty (106 B.C.), the fifteenth year during the reign of Jiajing in the Ming Dynasty (1536), the tenth year during the reign of Yongzheng in the Qing Dynasty (1732) and the thirtieth year during the reign of Daoguang in the Qing Dynasty (1850).

These historical materials con-

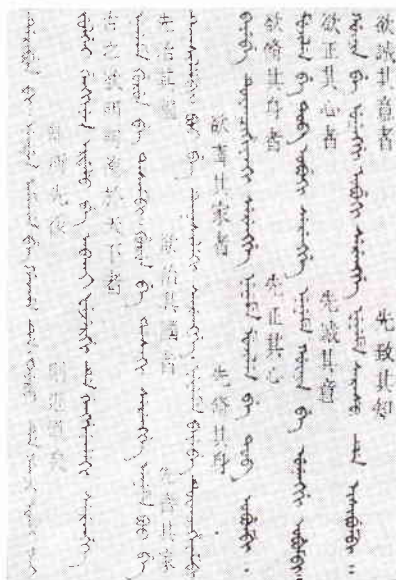
tribute to China's seismological research and provide a valuable source in verifying the magnitude, intensity and epicentre of past earthquakes and in studying the law governing earthquakes in the Liangshan area.

## LINGUISTICS

### Manchu Language Studied

To stimulate research on the Manchu language, a two-month class in Manchu was conducted since winter last year in Heilongjiang Province's Shuangcheng County, one of China's Manchu-speaking areas. Attending the class were some 80 linguists and other specialists.

Mu Yejun, a noted expert of the Manchu language, was the main speaker in the class. Trainees were taught dictionary usage, the words' parts of speech and rudimentary spoken Manchu. Manchu grammar will be studied in a second course to be held later this year. Mu's book *The Linguistic Structure of Qing Dynasty Manchu* will be used as textbook for a third session in 1983.



A page from a Qing-court manuscript of the "Great Learning" in Manchu and Han Languages.

Manchu is a language of the Manchu people, one of China's minority nationalities. The Manchu people whose ancestors established the Qing Dynasty and began ruling all of China in 1644 have been largely assimilated in language and customs with the Han people who account for 94 per cent of China's population. Today, of the 2.6 million Manchus in China, only a small number of people living in Heilongjiang Province and the Xibe nationality living in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region speak Manchu. The Xibes went to Xinjiang from the northeast during the Qing Dynasty.

The Manchu language belongs to the Tungusic branch of the Altaic family. The Manchu written language came into being during the reign of Nurhachi who proclaimed himself emperor in 1616 in China's northeast. This written form is called "old Manchu." In 1632, Huangtaiji, his successor, ordered language reforms, thus the "new Manchu," more elaborate and serviceable, was created. Before the downfall of the Qing Dynasty in the 1911 Revolution, a plethora of books and records were printed in Manchu and numerous Han-language works of literature and history were translated into "new Manchu." All imperial decrees and documents were issued in both Manchu and Han languages.

## MEDICINE

### *Aging in Health and In Sickness*

China is conducting a nationwide survey on longevity and the general health of the aged, including an analysis of the most common serious illnesses of the elderly. The data collected is expected to aid the study



A regular physical checkup for elderly people with no family dependents in Jiangling County, Hubei Province.

of the aging process and of the prevention of common old-age afflictions, and provide clues to the secret of longevity.

In 1979, gerontologists began investigations of longevity in an area where a significant number of people live to be 80, 90 and even 100 years old in five communes of Bama County in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. Later the scientists continued the survey by interviewing elderly residents of Guangzhou, Wuhan, Changsha, Shanghai, Changchun, Tianjin, Zhengzhou and Jinan.

The investigations showed that the majority of people who reach 80 or more are somewhat thin, open-minded and optimistic, and are mostly manual workers. They tended to be people of moderate habits — they are not over-eaters but eat a light diet, are early to bed and early to rise. Half of them said they had never been sick.

In Changchun, the capital of northeast China's Jilin Province, among 274 people over 90, 37.7 per cent had lived in cities all their lives, and 21.1 per cent moved to cities after they were 20. This suggested that city residents could also enjoy a long life.

Family histories of the elderly in Changsha revealed that 62 per

cent of the elderly had numerous relatives who had also lived a long time, and that they were more immune to sickness than ordinary people.

Hypertension is the most common illnesses among the elderly. Second is chronic bronchitis, followed by coronary heart disease and cancer, according to a study of case histories from six hospitals in Shanghai, Shenyang, Guangzhou, Shaanxi and Xinjiang.

However, reports from hospitals in Henan, Gansu, Zhejiang Provinces, Nanjing and Shanghai show that aged in-patients most frequently suffer from cardiovascular diseases, followed by respiratory diseases, and digestive disorders, mainly tumours. Statistics from many hospitals say that half of the aged in-patients suffer from complications. Elderly patients constitute 4.24-9.5 per cent of the entire in-patient population.

Hospital analyses indicate that the frequency order for causes of death among the elderly is: stroke, pneumonia, coronary heart disease and tumours. The most common malignant tumours are lung and stomach cancer. Compared with the analyses made in previous years, an increasing number of old people are dying of cancer.



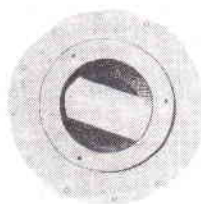
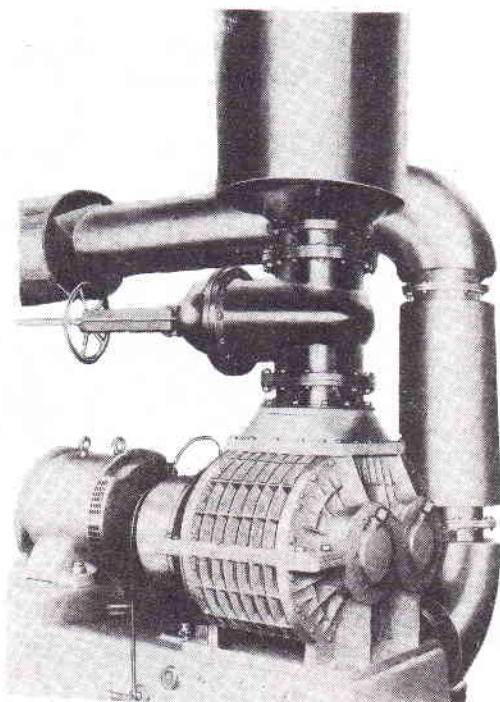


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